National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The importance of canine leishmaniosis in non-endemic areas, with special emphasis on the situation in Germany

Author(s): Mencke N
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Abstract:

This review article summarizes the situation of canine leishmaniosis in Germany. Published case studies on infections with Leishmania (L.) infantum in either humans or dogs are analyzed. Diagnosed cases of infections by Leishmania spp. in humans and animals are not a notifiable disease in Germany or other European countries. Taking this into consideration one may assume that there might be a significant gap between the analyzed and reported cases and the infectious status within the country. The reported case studies and results from surveys indicate that the majority of all L. infantum infections are acquired during travelling in endemic regions, predominantly the Mediterranean region. However there are cases reported from human infections and growing number of cases in dogs, where the case history may indicate an autochthonous infection within Germany, a country within a non-endemic region. The current data from entomological field studies proved the presence of two phlebotomine sand fly species. Phlebotomus (P.) mascittii, an anthropophilic sand fly species and P. perniciosus a proven vector of L. infantum. The impact from a growing leishmania-positive dog population within Germany, the distribution of at least two sand fly species, one with vector potential in the light of climate change and other non-vectorial transmissions are summarized.

Source: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22191164

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Temperature

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Europe

European Region/Country: European Country

Other European Country : Germany

Health Impact: ☑

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Vectorborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: Fly-borne Disease

Fly-borne Disease: Leishmaniasis

Resource Type: ☑

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale: ☑

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified